Message Text

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FOR SIMONS FROM ANDREWS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. RAUTA CASE. OUR CABLE TO YOU ABOUT THE REHM VISIT AND THE POSSIBILITY OF OUR SUGGESTING AND PERHAPS SUPPORTING A REQUEST FOR CLEMENCY FOR RAUTA IS THE RESULT OF A DISCUSSION BETWEEN GEORGE VEST, CLIFF BRODY OF HA, AND INTS. ON THE REHM VISIT, WE PASSED ON YOUR VIEWS TO REHM, BUT ONCE HE MADE UP HIS MIND TO GO, THERE WAS CERTAINLY NO WAY OF OUR PREVENTING HIM, AND IN THE LONG RUN IT MAY PROVE HELPFUL TO HAVE EMBASSY PARTICIPATION SO THAT WE KNOW EXACTLY WHAT WAS SAID. THE CLEMENCY IDEA STEMS FROM THE WAY THE ROSINGER CASE WAS RESOLVED, WHICH RACEANU SUGGESTED TO INTS (IN A VERY INDIRECT WAY WITHOUT EVER MENTIONING RAUTA) AS A POSSIBLY FRUITFUL APPROACH. WE ALSO USED IT TO HEAD OFF WHAT WE THOUGHT WAS A VERY MISGUIDED IDEA OF HA'S TO HAVE PATT DERIAN SEND A LETTER TO PUNGAN ABOUT RAUTA. AS YOU CONFIDENTIAL

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WILL HAVE SEEN, DOLE RAISED RAUTA AT THE JULY 12 HEARINGS AND HE MIGHT BE CONVINCED TO SUPPORT A CLEMENCY REQUEST IF RAUTA OR HIS WIFE INITIATE ONE. OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT RAUTA HIMSELF MAY PERHAPS BALK AT THE IDEA OF PLEADING MEA CULPA FOR REASONS OF PRIDE, BUT OUR LONG-DISTANCE READING IS THAT MRS. RAUTA WOULD PROBABLY BE WILLING TO ASK FOR CLEMENCY FOR HIM. OF COURSE, THIS WOULD SERVE NO PURPOSE

IF RAUTA HIMSELF REFUSES TO GO ALONG. YOU WILL PROBABLY WANT TO TALK THIS OVER WITH REHM; THAT IS WHY INTS PLANTED THE IDEA WITH HIM ALREADY.

2. ROSINGER ET AL. WE ARE POUCHING TO YOU JACOB BIRNBAUMS TESTIMONY AT THE JULY 12 HEARINGS. IN AN APPENDIX, HE LISTS ROMANIAN JEWS WHO WERE CONVICTED IN "SCAPEGOAT" TRI-ALS IN THE EARLY 1960'S. BIRNBAUM IS TROUBLED BY THE FACT THAT MOST OF THE PERSONS AMNESTIED IN JUNE (BUCHAREST 4800) ARE NOT ON HIS LIST. HE IS PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE FATE OF BERNAT MORSKY, WHO WAS TO HAVE BEEN PERMITTED TO EMIGRATE TO ISRAEL, AND HE CLAIMED THAT ALEXANDRU RADU HAD NO NEED OF AN AMNESTY. WITH THE EXCEP-TION OF ROSINGER, MANHEIM AND GHINSBRUNER, HE KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT THE OTHERS ON THE LIST OF NINE AND IS INCLINED TO SUSPECT ROMANIAN DOUBLE-DEALING. HE WANTS TO KNOW WHAT THE JUNE 8 AMNESTY WAS FOR (CAN YOU GET A COPY?) AND WHAT IS THE FATE OF THE OTHERS ON HIS LIST, PARTICULAR-LY MORSKY. INTS TOLD HIM WE WOULD DO WHAT WE CAN, BUT ALSO STEERED HIM IN VERY FORCEFUL TERMS TOWARD THE ISRAELIS. BIRNBAUM SAID HE WAS ABOUT TO CALL THE ISRAELI EMBASSY HERE, WOULD SPEAK TO THEM VERY FIRMLY, AND REITERATED HIS PLEDGE TO LAUNCH A MAJOR COMPAIGN TO GET THE ISRAELIS TO MODIFY THEIR APPROACH TO EMIGRATION FROM ROMANIA. WE ALSO UNDERTOOK TO PASS BIRNBAUM THE LIST OF SIXTEEN YOU CONFIDENTIAL.

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HAVE POUCHED US.

3. TRIFA/STRATMAN VISIT. WE UNDERSTAND DAVID STRATMAN IS IN PARIS TALKING TO THE ROMANIAN EMIGRE COMMUNITY THERE ABOUT THE FASCIST PERIOD IN ROMANIA. HE SHOULD BE IN BUCHAREST IN A WEEK OR TWO. WE HAVE GIVEN HIM YOUR NAME AND THAT OF JOHN TIPTON AS EMBASSY CONTACTS, SHOULD HE NEED THEM. STRATMAN TEACHES AT BROOKLYN COLLEGE AND HAS A PH.D. IN SOCIOLOGY BUT ALSO HAS AN INTEREST IN HISTORY. OF ROMANIAN BIRTH, HE WAS A LAWYER THERE: WE DON'T KNOW WHEN HE LEFT. WE UNDERSTAND STRATMAN MET DR. ILIE CEAUSESCU DURING ONE OF THE LATTER'S VISITS TO THE U.S. AND EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN STUDYING THE FASCIST PERIOD IN ROMANIA; CEAUSESCU IS SAID TO HAVE INVITED HIM TO COME AND DO SO. WE FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT STRATMAN INTENDS TO EXPRESS NO PARTICULAR INTEREST IN TRIFA, EITHER IN PARIS OR IN ROMANIA, BUT HE BELIEVES HE CAN GET ACCESS TO MATERIALS THAT COULD BE USEFUL IN THE TRIFA CASE, PARTI-CULARLY IN THE IASI ARCHIVES. STRATMAN WILL PROBABLY ASK FOR EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN SENDING MATERIALS BACK TO THE U.S.

4. KUDOS. OUR WARM THANKS TO THE EMBASSY, IN PARTICULAR LOU MANGIAFICO, FOR THE PROMPT, THOROUGH AND VERY

USEFUL BRIEFING MATERIALS FOR THE JULY 12 HEARING. IT WAS A VERY PROFESSIONAL PERFORMANCE AND HELPED VEST GIVE WHAT WE THINK WAS A VERY EFFECTIVE AND INFORMED TESTIMONY ON JULY 12. KNOWING HOW MUCH ELSE YOU ARE DEALING WITH AT THE SAME TIME, WE ARE DOUBLY GRATEFUL.

5. BRAGDON TDY. WE UNDERSTAND FROM BRAGDON'S OFFICE THAT THEY HAVE APPROVED (AND BOB HAS AGREED TO) A MONTH'S TDY IN BUCHAREST BEGINNING AROUND AUGUST 27. THEY ARE UNDER IMPRESSION THAT THIS NOTIFICATION HAD ALREADY GONE TO POST, BUT THEY ARE DOUBLE-CHECKING. IN ANY CASE, CONFIDENTIAL

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THIS SEEMS FIRM AND SHOULD HELP SOMEWHAT.

- 6. BURGESS TDY/REPLACEMENT FOR CASTRO. I SPOKE WITH LEIDEL ABOUT EXTENDING JAY'S PER DIEM COVERAGE UNTIL AUGUST 10,AND HE BELIEVES THIS CAN BE WORKED OUT. HE IS LESS BULLISH ON IDEA OF COMMERCIAL ATTACHE WITHOUT LANGUAGE, BUT PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THIS WITH PERSONNEL.
- 7. FROM LAURIE ZIVETS FOR HANK ZIVETZ (ICA).
 BANGLADESH FELL THROUGH. WOULD LIKE TO COME AUGUST 10,
 COST \$850 FROM CAROLINA. CABLE RESPONSE TO RESTRINS
 OR THROUGH DEPARTMENT. LOVE LAURIE. CHRISTOPHER

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